



NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFSC-341

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM
ON SEA TURTLE BIOLOGY AND CONSERVATION**

23-27 February 1993
Jekyll Island, Georgia

Compilers:

Barbara A. Schroeder
Blair E. Witherington

JANUARY 1994

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Ronald H. Brown, Secretary

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
D. James Baker, Ph.D., Administrator

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Rolland A. Schmitten, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries

The Technical Memorandum Series is used for documentation and timely communication of preliminary results, interim reports, or special-purpose information. Although the memoranda are not subject to complete formal review, editorial control, or detailed editing, they are expected to reflect sound professional work.

SATELLITE TRACKING OF JUVENILE KEMP'S RIDLEY SEA TURTLES NEAR SABINE PASS, TEXAS

Maurice L. Renaud

Southeast Fisheries Center, National Marine Fisheries Service, Galveston Laboratory, 4700 Avenue U, Galveston, Texas 77551 USA

Five juvenile Kemp's ridleys, ranging from 32 to 36 cm in straight carapace length and from 5 to 7 kg in weight, were fitted with satellite transmitters and released at Sabine Pass, TX. They were tracked in the Gulf of Mexico for periods up to 72 days in water depths ranging from 1 to 13 m. Preliminary data on their movements indicate that these turtles spent time in association with the Sabine jetties, nearshore coastal areas and Sabine Banks, 13 km offshore from the turtles' release site. Four of the five turtles remained in the Sabine area where they were captured. The fifth turtle, captured in Galveston, approximately 110 km to the south, returned to Galveston Bay in 10 days.